IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 12, last paragraph, starting on line 17 and continuing to page 13, line 20 please change to read as follows:

It is desirable to provide a connection-implementation-classifying means that detects incorrect setting on the basis of an order in which the cross-connection categories are collected. For each channel, it is desirable to provide a connection-implementation-classifying means that creates a squelch table composed of node information of 2 stations and, in the case of a DCP connection of dropping a signal from a line and then relaying the signal to the protection line, it is desirable to have the connection-implementation- classifying means set node information of a station dropping the signal relayed to the protection line in the squelch table whereas, in the case of a DTP connection of adding a signal to both the working and protection lines, it is desirable to have the connection-implementation-classifying means set node information of a first station adding the signal to both the working and protection lines and node information of a second station dropping the signal added to the protection line in the squelch table. It is desirable to provide a connection-implementation-classifying means that creates a RIP (Routing Interworking Protection) table including node information of a station adding a signal, dropping a signal or relaying after dropping a signal and path information for the implementation of connection for each channel. It is desirable to provide a switching control means that executes switching control for the implementation of connection based on the path information.

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